

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL BELIZE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161796

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, UK, GH, BH

SUBJECT: ANGLO-GUATEMALAN DISCUSSION IN MIAMI

1. BRITISH SECRETARY OF STATE TED ROWLANDS MET WITH GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER MOLINA, VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT VILLAGRAN KRAMER AND THE PROSPECTIVE FOREIGN MINISTER CASTILLO VALDEZ IN MIAMI JUNE 17 AND 18. THE BRITISH AIM WAS TO BRIDGE THE TRANSITION BETWEEN THE OUTGOING AND NEW GUATEMALAN ADMINISTRATIONS. ACCORDING TO THE BRITISH EMBASSY, IN DISCUSSIONS WITH MOLINA (WITHOUT VILLAGRAN AND CASTILLO VALDEZ) THE BRITISH EXPLAINED THE AGREEMENT REACHED RECENTLY WITH THE BELIZEANS IN NEW YORK. ROWLANDS EMPHASIZED THAT ALTHOUGH THEY DO NOT CONSIDER THEMSELVES BOUND BY ANY PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS, THEY WERE SURE TO LIFT IDEAS FROM THE PREVIOUS TALKS.

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2. IN SUBSEQUENT TALKS BETWEEN UK NEGOTIATOR CORTAZZI AND VILLAGRAN KRAMER AND CASTILLO VALDEZ, THE BRITISH STRESSED THAT THEY WOULD ACCEPT ANY FORMULA FOR RESOLVING THE DISPUTE THAT WAS ACCEPTABLE TO BELIZE. THE GUATEMALANS WANT A TRIPARTITE (UK-BELIZE-GUATEMALA) MEETING IN JULY IN BARBADOS OR ANOTHER ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN COUNTRY DURING WHICH THE GUATEMALANS WILL ASK THE

BELIZEANS FOR THEIR IDEAS ON A SETTLEMENT. THE GUATEMALANS SAID THEY WISHED TO ESTABLISH GOOD WORKING RELATIONS WITH BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION PARTIES IN BELIZE.

3. THE BRITISH IMPRESSION IS THAT THE INCOMING LUCAS ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT YET DEVELOPED A CLEAR NEGOTIATING POSITION. ACCORDING TO THE BRITISH, THE GUATEMALAN AIM IN A JULY MEETING WOULD BE TO SET THE STAGE SO THAT IN THE NEXT UNGA THE CENTRAL AMERICANS AND CARIBBEANS COULD PRODUCE A JOINT DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE BELIZE ISSUE STATING NEGOTIATIONS WERE TAKING PLACE AND EMPHASIZING THE NEED FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION.

4. THE BRITISH ALSO DISCUSSED WITH VILLAGRAN KRAMER AND CASTILLO VALDEZ THE DESIRABILITY OF LUCAS MAKING A HELPFUL STATEMENT ON BELIZE IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS. SUBSEQUENTLY, UK EMBASSY, ON INSTRUCTIONS, CONTACTED DEPT. TO REQUEST US ASSISTANCE IN REINFORCING UK SUGGESTION THAT A HELPFUL STATEMENT ON BELIZE IN INAUGURAL ADDRESS MIGHT BE USEFUL. DEPT. REQUESTS EMBASSY TO FOLLOW THROUGH AS APPROPRIATE. VANCE

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